

SUPPLEMENTAL ACTION

Examiner Amendment

During a conversation with applicants representative Garth Doll on June 18, 2008, the examiner was given permission to cancel the claims withdrawn with traverse, claims 1, 3-15, and 17 as they were directed towards non elected inventions.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 16 and 19-32 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The claimed invention distinguishes over the art of record. The closest prior art of record teaches using an oligosaccharide (Takenishi et al. EP 555980) as an auxiliary component in the production of polymeric particles teaches a solvent method for compounding for the formation of the composition. There is nothing in the art of record to suggest a method of forming the composition through melt kneading a polymer component in the presence of an oligosaccharide matrix, followed by elution, as the aqueous solvent is required in the invention of Takenishi et al.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Liam J. Heincer whose telephone number is 571-270-3297. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday 7:30 to 5:00 EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Eashoo can be reached on 571-272-1197. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Mark Eashoo, Ph.D./
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1796
31-Jul-08

LJH
July 30, 2008